

Literatures of Modernity Symposium Program

Installations, Presentations, Keynote and Round Table
Monday March 28
Heaslip House, 7th Floor
297 Victoria Street, Ryerson University

8:30 - 9:00

Registration & Viewing of Installations (artists available to discuss their work all day long)

MODERNITY EXHIBIT: Installations in Photography and New Media Book Art
Curator: Cristina Naccarato

Jeffrey Douglas (McMaster), *The Persistence of Ephemeral Memory: Tech-Waste in Pastoral Spaces* (Photography)

Reg Beatty (OCAD), *Documents for Artists: Reimagining Eugène Atget's Photographic Portraiture* (Book Art and New Media)

Kimon Kaketsis (Ryerson), *Mitera* (Photography)

9:00 - 9:10

Welcome: Andrea Karr (Literatures of Modernity Organizer), **Irene Gammel** (Instructor for LM8912: Modernity as a Public Event), **Dennis Denisoff** (Chair, English), **Mark Lovewell** (Interim Dean of Arts)

9:15 - 10:15

SESSION 1: Self-Conceptions: Identity and Modernity
Chair: Nima Naghibi

Charles Reeve (OCAD), *Autobiography, Artists, Sincerity: Episodes of Modernity*

Dave Coodin (York), *The Queering of Crisis: F. Scott Fitzgerald's Asubjective Modernism in This Side of Paradise*

Stephen Carlick (Ryerson), *Modernity and the Flawed Body: Reading Chris Ware's Comics*

10:15 Break (Refreshments provided)

10:30 - 11:30

SESSION 2: THE CONDITIONS OF MODERNITY/READING MODERNITY

Chair: Jonathan Rollins

Damian Tarnopolsky (Toronto), *The Empty Modern: The Specter of Samuel Beckett in the World of Elizabeth Bowen*

John Wrighton (Brighton), *Modernity's Dialectic: Charles Olson's Objectivist Poetics*

Daniel Nutters (Temple), *Thomas Mann in the Arcades: Walter Benjamin's Dialectical Image of *The Magic Mountain**

11:30 Break (Refreshments provided)

11:45 - 12:30

SESSION 3: FLIGHT OUT OF TIME: MODERNITY AND NOSTALGIA

Chair: Sarah Henstra

Ihor Junyk (Trent), "Erroneous Representations": Nostalgia in Galician Modernist Literature

Evren Ozselcuk (York), *Politics of Loss and Remedy: Encounters with the Past in Orhan Pamuk's Museums*

Geneviève Cloutier (UQAM), *Modernity, the Avant-Garde, and the Myth of Futurism*

RESPONDENTS to morning panels & keynote: Stephen Voyce & Scott Dobbin

12:30 Lunch (Light lunch provided)

1:15-1:45

LUNCH TIME KEYNOTE

Chair: Alan Shepard (Provost and Vice President Academic)

Keynote: Christopher Hume (*Toronto Star*), *Modernity, Community and City Building*

Christopher Hume is the architecture critic and urban issues columnist of the *Toronto Star*.

2:00 - 3:00

SESSION 4: SITES OF MODERNITY: ARCHITECTURE, SPACE, CITY

Chair: Sophie Thomas

Gregory Menelaos Dandeleas (US Air Force Academy), In Whom I Sit Lonely: The Architectural Imagination in Allen Ginsberg's "Howl"

Cheryl Epstein (Canada's National Ballet School), Modernity Questions Itself in Jean Cocteau's Ballet *Les Mariés de la Tour Eiffel*

Cory Teubner (Wichita), Modernity's Haunted House: Isabel Allende's *The House of the Spirits*

3:00 Break (Refreshments provided)

3:15 - 4:15

SESSION 5: MODERNITY, THE SECULAR AND THE SPIRITUAL

Chair: Randy Boyagoda

Basit Kareem Iqbal (Toronto), Literary History and Literary Heteronomy?: Gil Anidjar's Postsecular Reading of Paul de Man

Peter Aadoson (Ottawa), Old Religion, Modern Times: A.M. Klein's Modern-Day Psalms

Scott Duchesne (Guelph), "A Universal Brotherhood": Modernity and The Canadian Theosophist

4:15 Break (Refreshments provided)

4:30 - 5:45

SESSION 6: MODERNITY AND TECHNOLOGY

Chair: Leila Meshgini

Robert Hemmings (Nipissing-Muskoka), Vital Sounds: The Acoustics of Airplanes in High Modernism

Patrick Nickleson (Toronto), "Google-Thinking" and Pre-Compositional Space in Nico Muhly's *Mothertongue*

Nathaniel Laywine (Toronto), Ancient Remnant Cultures Meet Video Art: Liselotte Wajstedt's *Facing* and *A Sami in the City*

Karen Correia Da Silva (Ryerson), Modernity Ruptured: Telepresence, Performance, and Phenomenology

RESPONDENT to afternoon panels: Karen Mulhallen & Deanna Janovski

5:45 Break (Refreshments provided)

6:00 - 7:00

MODERNITY ROUND TABLE: MODERNITY, COGNITION, TRAUMA

Moderators: Lara deBeyer & Samantha Magguilli

Sheila Giffen (McGill), Resisting War With Words: Writing World War II

Maria Keller (Waterloo), Modernity, Cognitive Poetics, and Deictic Shift Theory

Mimi Choi (Ryerson), Modernity and Trauma Post 9/11

Valerie Uher (Ryerson), Is Love Dead?: J.M. Coetzee's *Diary of a Bad Year*

Amanda Merpaw (Ryerson), Modernity, the Post-Holocaust Age, and Writing for Young Adults

Emma Fedderson (Ryerson), When Pathology is the Norm: Christopher Nolan's Film
Memento

7:15 - 9:00

RECEPTION (with Hors d'oeuvres and wine)

Andrew O'Malley (Director, Literatures of Modernity Program), and **Laura Gergley**

(Organizer), Closing Remarks & Viewing of Installations (artists present to discuss their work).

Hosts and Organizers

This Symposium is hosted by the Literatures of Modernity Graduate Program in the English Department at Ryerson and organized as part of the graduate course *LM8912: Modernity as a Public Event* (Instructor: Dr. Irene Gammel). Graduate Student Organizers include:

Lara deBeyer • Scott Dobbin • Emma Fedderson • Laura Gergley • Deanna Janovski • Andrea Karr • Samantha Magguilli • Amanda Merpaw • Leila Meshgini • Cristina Naccarato

The Literatures of Modernity Graduate Program was launched in 2008 in the Ryerson English Department to study the salient features of modernity including subjectivity, urbanization, migration, new technologies and war -- pressing issues in today's world.

Technical Support: Christopher Chang

Sponsors

This symposium is generously supported by the Offices of the Provost and Vice President Academic, the Vice Provost Student, the Literatures of Modernity Graduate Program, the Faculty of Arts and the Modern Literature and Culture Research Center.

Thank you

Mark Lovewell, Dean of Arts • Rose Donato, Manager in Continuing Education • Karen McEwen, Modern Literature and Culture Research Center • Andrew O'Malley, Literatures of Modernity Program • Norm Pinder, Literatures of Modernity Program • Jonathan Rollins, Literatures of Modernity/English • Lisa Vuong, Psychology • Barbara Wright, the Chang School Event Coordinator • Simon DiVincenzo, Project Architect, Campus Planning

For more information on the symposium

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